

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3173–S3316

Measures Introduced: Sixty-three bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1723–1785, S.J. Res. 19, and S. Res. 227–228.

Pages S3191–93

Measures Reported:

S. 921, to amend title 18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Page S3191

Measures Passed:

Alaska Tourism Recovery Act: Senate passed H.R. 1318, to restrict the imposition by the Secretary of Homeland Security of fines, penalties, duties, or tariffs applicable only to coastwise voyages, or prohibit otherwise qualified non-United States citizens from serving as crew, on specified vessels transporting passengers between the State of Washington and the State of Alaska, to address a Canadian cruise ship ban and the extraordinary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Alaskan communities, pursuant to the order of May 19, 2021.

Pages S3186–87

Kids to Parks Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 228, designating May 15, 2021, as “Kids to Parks Day”.

Page S3314

Arbor Day 149th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 194, celebrating the 149th anniversary of Arbor Day, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S3314

Cortez Masto (for King) Amendment No. 1875, to amend the preamble.

Page S3314

Measures Considered:

Endless Frontier Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, inno-

vation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S3175–82, S3182–86, S3187–89

Rejected:

By 44 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 198), Inhofe Amendment No. 1523 (to Amendment No. 1502), to express the sense of the Senate and establish points of order to ensure the United States adequately funds national defense with a whole-of-government investment plan for strategic competition with the People’s Republic of China. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, May 19, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60-affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S3175–80

By 46 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 199), Johnson Amendment No. 1518 (to Amendment No. 1502), to prohibit the cancellation of contracts for physical barriers and other border security measures for which funds already have been obligated and for which penalties will be incurred in the case of such cancellation and prohibiting the use of funds for payment of such penalties. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, May 19, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60-affirmative votes, was not agreed to.)

Pages S3176–82, S3182–83

Pending:

Schumer Amendment No. 1502, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S3175

Cantwell Amendment No. 1527 (to Amendment No. 1502), of a perfecting nature.

Page S3175

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, May 24, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the bill.

Page S3316

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senators Cortez Masto and Kaine be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions from Thursday, May 20, 2021, through Monday, May 24, 2021.

Page S3316

Brooks-LaSure Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of

the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services. **Page S3182**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, May 20, 2021, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 24, 2021. **Page S3182**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3182**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 24, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, May 20, 2021, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, May 24, 2021. **Page S3316**

Clarke Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Kristen M. Clarke, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice. **Page S3182**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services. **Page S3182**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3182**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3182**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jennifer L. Homendy, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term of three years.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Page S3316

Messages from the House: **Page S3191**

Measures Referred: **Page S3191**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S3191**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S3191**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S3191**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3193–96**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3196–98**

Additional Statements: **Page S3190**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3198–S3313**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3313**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—199) **Pages S3180, S3183**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 4:40 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, May 24, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3316.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTLANDS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal, state, and private forestlands, focusing on opportunities for addressing climate change, after receiving testimony from Joe Fox, Arkansas Department of Agriculture, on behalf of the National Association of State Foresters, and Jessica Orrego, American Carbon Registry at Winrock International, both of Little Rock, Arkansas; Kedren Dillard, Sustainable Forestry and African American Land Retention Network, Washington, D.C., on behalf of the American Forest Foundation; Troy Harris, Jamestown, Atlanta, Georgia; and Tony Cheng, Colorado State University Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, Fort Collins.

TRANSITION OF FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the transition of all United States and Coalition forces from Afghanistan and its implications, after receiving testimony from David F. Helvey, Acting Assistant Secretary for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, and Brigadier General Matthew G. Trollinger, USMC, Deputy Director, Politico-Military Affairs (Middle East), J-5, Joint Staff.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Michael J. McCord, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), and Ronald S. Moultrie, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security.

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine 21st century communities, focusing on expanding opportunity through infrastructure investments, after receiving testimony from Marcia L. Fudge, Secretary of

Housing and Urban Development; and Pete Buttigieg, Secretary of Transportation.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Eric S. Lander, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Commerce: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Pamela A. Melroy, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, who was introduced by Senator Kelly, Carlos Alberto Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, and Richard W. Spinrad, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, who was introduced by Representative Bonamici, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FOREST MANAGEMENT, FOREST PRODUCTS, AND CARBON

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the role of reforestation, active forest management, and carbon storage in fostering resiliency, after receiving testimony from Jennifer S. Cover, WoodWorks, San Marcos, California; Thomas W. Crowther, United Nations Trillion Trees Initiative, Zurich, Switzerland; James D. Irving, J.D. Irving, Limited, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada; Mary Mitsos, National Forest Foundation, Missoula, Montana; and Ben Wudtke, Intermountain Forest Association, Rapid City, South Dakota.

HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security concluded a hearing to examine solving the crisis in the health care workforce, after receiving testimony from David J. Skorton, Association of American Medical Colleges, Washington, D.C.; Leon McDougale, National Medical Association, Columbus, Ohio; Shelley Spires, Albany Area Primary Health Care, Albany, Georgia; and James D. Herbert, University of New England, Biddeford, Maine.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Candace Jackson-Akiwumi, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Julien Xavier Neals, and Zahid N. Quraishi, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine taking aim at Alzheimer's, focusing on frontline perspectives and caregiver challenges, after receiving testimony from Mark A. Supiano, University of Utah Center on Aging, Salt Lake City; Jennifer Manly, Columbia University Taub Institute for Research in Aging and Alzheimer's Disease, New York, New York; Peg Lahmeyer, The Ark of SC, Summerville, South Carolina; and Katelyn Montanez, Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 96 public bills, H.R. 3362–3457; and 15 resolutions, H.J. Res. 46–49; and H. Res. 417–427 were introduced.

Pages H2647–52

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2655–56

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 2570, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain disclosures relating to climate change, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–39).

Page H2647

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative DeGette to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2615

Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act, 2021: The House passed H.R. 3237, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, by a yea-and-nay vote of 213 yeas to 212 nays with three answering “present”, Roll No. 156.

Pages H2617–32

Rejected the Tony Gonzalez (TX) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations

by a yea-and-nay vote of 209 yeas to 218 nays, Roll No. 155.

Pages H2630–31

H. Res. 409, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3233) and (H.R. 3237) was agreed to yesterday, May 19th.

Providing for the appointment of Barbara Barrett as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.J. Res. 27, providing for the appointment of Barbara Barrett as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Page H2632

Alaska Tourism Recovery Act: The House agreed to discharge from committee and pass H.R. 1318, to restrict the imposition by the Secretary of Homeland Security of fines, penalties, duties, or tariffs applicable only to coastwise voyages, or prohibit otherwise qualified non-United States citizens from serving as crew, on specified vessels transporting passengers between the State of Washington and the State of Alaska, to address a Canadian cruise ship ban and the extraordinary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Alaskan communities, as amended by Representative DeFazio.

Pages H2632–33

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2630–31 and H2631.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Committee Meetings

WORLDWIDE THREAT AND FY 2022 NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM/MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM POSTURE WITH THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY

Committee On Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing entitled “Worldwide Threat and FY 2022 National Intelligence Program/Military Intelligence Program Posture with the Director of National Intelligence and Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security”. Testimony was heard from Avril Haines, Director of National Intelligence; and David M. Taylor, Performing Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, Department of Defense. This hearing was closed.

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “Member Day”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Fallon and Van Drew.

MEMBER DAY

Committee On Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Member Day”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Escobar and Hudson.

REVIEWING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY, POLICY, AND PROGRAMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022: FOSTERING A ROBUST ECOSYSTEM FOR OUR TECHNOLOGICAL EDGE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems held a hearing entitled “Reviewing Department of Defense Science and Technology Strategy, Policy, and Programs for Fiscal Year 2022: Fostering a Robust Ecosystem for Our Technological Edge”. Testimony was heard from Barbara McQuiston, Acting, Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense; Philip Perconti, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Technology, Department of the Army; Joan Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy Research, Development, Test, and Engineering, Department of the Navy; and Kristin Baldwin, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics for Science Technology, and Engineering, Department of the Air Force.

AN UNENDING CRISIS: ESSENTIAL STEPS TO REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE AND MASS SHOOTINGS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “An Unending Crisis: Essential Steps to Reducing Gun Violence and Mass Shootings”. Testimony was heard from Vikki Goodwin, Member, Texas House of Representatives; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 2930, the “STOP Act of 2021”; H.R. 438, to amend the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act to extend the deadline for a report by the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and for other purposes; and legislation to prescribe procedures for effective consultation and coordination by Federal agencies with federally recognized Indian Tribes regarding Federal Government actions that impact Tribal lands and interests to ensure that meaningful Tribal input is an integral part

of the Federal decision-making process. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING NEXT STEPS FOR U.S. ENGAGEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing entitled “Examining Next Steps for U.S. Engagement in Afghanistan”. Testimony was heard from Zalmay Khalilzad, Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation, Department of State.

CYBERSECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT AT VA: ADDRESSING ONGOING CHALLENGES AND MOVING FORWARD

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held a hearing entitled “Cybersecurity and Risk Management at VA: Addressing Ongoing Challenges and Moving Forward”. Testimony was heard from Paul Cunningham, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs; Michael Bowman, Director of IT and Security Audits Division, Office of Audits and Evaluations Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs;

Chris Jaikaran, Analyst in Cybersecurity Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.

POWERING UP CLEAN ENERGY: INVESTMENTS TO MODERNIZE AND EXPAND THE ELECTRIC GRID

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Powering Up Clean Energy: Investments to Modernize and Expand the Electric Grid”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, May 24

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of S. 1260, Endless Frontier Act.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, May 21

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 9 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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